

## Postal Regulatory Commission

Washington, D.C. 20268-0001

### NOTICE OF FILING UNDER 39 U.S.C. § 404(d)

TO THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE:

Please take notice that on May 23, 2011, the Commission received a petition for review of the Postal Service's determination to close the Valley Falls Station in Cumberland, Rhode Island. The petition was filed by Derrick Watson on behalf of the Concerned Citizens of Valley Falls—Save Our Post Office (Petitioner).

This notice is advisory only and is being furnished so that the Postal Service may begin assembling the administrative record in advance of any formal appeal proceedings held upon the alleged (closing/consolidation) for transmittal pursuant to 39 CFR § 3001.113(a) (requiring the filing of the record within 15 days of the filing with the Commission of a petition for review). The Postal Service's administrative record is due no later than June 7, 2011.



Shoshana M. Grove  
Secretary

Date: May 24, 2011

Attachment

BEFORE THE  
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Complaint of Derrick Watson

Docket No. A2001-18 ✓

ON BEHALF OF:

**The Concerned Citizens of Valley Falls - Save Our Post Office SOPO**

REGARDING:

**APPEAL OF CLOSURE OF VALLEY FALLS POST OFFICE CUMBERLAND RI 02864**

**MAY 22, 2011**

Derrick Watson  
18 Abbott Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Cumberland, RI 02864  
401-263-2472  
dwatson12255@yahoo.com

Dear Commissioners:

Please accept this document as a formal petition and request for review of the United States Postal Service's decision to close the Valley Falls Post Office Branch located at 197 Broad Street in Cumberland, Rhode Island 02864 on Friday July 8, 2011. (Exhibit #1)

The decision to close and suspend retail services at the Valley Falls Post Office Branch was rendered on May 5, 2011 and this request for review is being filed with the Postal Regulatory Commission within the commission's statutory time period for customer and community response.

I am a resident of Valley Falls Cumberland Rhode Island and receive mail at 18 Abbott Street in Cumberland Rhode Island. I utilize the Valley Falls Branch Post Office on a daily basis to ship parcels for my eBay business. I began my eBay business in July

of 2010 and have shipped over four hundred (400) packages since that time. I was recently awarded "Top Rated Seller" eBay status due to my consistently high feedback ratings, excellent customer service, but mostly for my ability to ship packages very quickly. My local post office branch in Valley Falls has helped me ascend to eBay's top echelon and I am truly grateful and appreciative of the excellent and efficient service this Valley Falls Post Office branch provides.

This request for review represents the combined concerns of the townspeople of Valley Falls, Central Falls, Cumberland, The Mayor of Cumberland and local businesses. Other documents that support our appeal will be appended to this initial request and be forthcoming.

I will attempt to be brief as I delineate why residents of the aforementioned communities feel that a reversal of the USPS decision is warranted; but since this decision threatens the quality of our lives, personal finances and the community's present and future economic development, I find it difficult to do so.

I became very concerned when I was informed on March 25, 2011, by way of a notice posted on the door of the Valley Falls Post Office, (Exhibit #2) that the United States Postal Service was considering closing the Valley Falls Branch and moving PO boxes and retail services over 3.5 miles away to the Diamond Hill Branch in Cumberland. The notice also stated that the USPS would sponsor a community meeting at Cumberland Town Hall on April 6, 2011 at 2:00 PM to allow residents to voice their concerns regarding the proposed closing.

I immediately drafted a letter to Patrick R. Donahoe, Postmaster General and CEO of the USPS to express my concerns (Exhibit #3) and how this closing would affect my eBay business. Since the USPS was hosting this meeting at a time when most working residents would not be able to attend, I created and began to distribute a signature petition to include these residents in the proceedings (Exhibit #4). The petition to save the Valley Falls Post office yielded approximately four hundred and twenty (420)

signatures of residents who rented PO Box and other walk-in retail customers who opposed the closing. Our goal was to submit these petitions to the postal representatives at the community meeting as proof positive that our community would be adversely affected with the elimination of our local retail postal services.

When the community meeting convened on April 6, 2011, I and the other attending residents immediately realized that the meeting was never intended to be a fact finding forum as stated in the "Public Notice". The postal representative that conducted the meeting was there instead to inform us that the decision to close our local post office had already been made. Our attendance meant nothing, our petitions meant nothing and our community's quality of life meant even less. We left the meeting feeling betrayed but most of all ignored.

The postal representative who conducted the meeting even admitted as he introduced post masters from branches of both Rhode Island and Mass. that these representatives were in attendance for training purposes. He also admitted, rather jokingly, that the Cape Cod Mass. community had an over abundance of post office branches that were in such close proximity to each other "that you could almost throw a stone from one location to another"; but despite the saturation of post office branches served by the Cape Cod community our local branch was the one that the New England Area Operations saw fit to close. I am not sure why the representative chose to mention this fact but: we were shocked by the postal representative's demeanor and his total disregard for our concerns. The citizens of Valley Falls, The Mayor of Town of Cumberland and our local business then realized that we were being denied our statutory rights as residents and postal customers. It is for these reasons that we appeal to the commission to intervene, suspend, and reverse the USPS decision to close our much needed local post office branch. Our specific concerns and citations are delineated as follows:

**Since I am neither a lawyer nor one who fully comprehends the various U.S.C. chapters or statutes, I will not attempt to list the specific laws that**

**our concerns address. I respectfully request that the Commission discern and apply its various laws, statutes and regulations to my community's concerns. I believe that the Commission is better versed and more capable of attaching our concerns and citations to the various Postal Regulatory Commission's statutes and regulations.**

- 1) The USPS conducted a survey of only Post Office Box holders in 2009 to solicit comments regarding their contemplation to close the Valley Falls Branch. However they never actually surveyed the entire community who for the most part utilize postal retail services on a daily basis. Basically, the USPS failed to take a complete census of the mail service delivery households or its primary retail services customers.
- 2) The USPS never informed the residents of Valley Falls, postal box holders or retail customers of their right to appeal any final closure decision rendered by the USPS regarding the Valley Falls Post Office Branch. Our right to have our complaints reviewed by the Postal Regulatory Commission was never specified in any written communiqué posted at the Valley Falls Branch (Exhibit #1, Exhibit #2) mailed to the post office box holders (Exhibit #5) nor was there any mention of an appeal process stated at the community meeting held on April 6, 2011. The official letters that I received from the Office of the Postmaster General in response to my initial complaint also made no mention to an appeal process. (Exhibit#5-6). Lastly the representative who hosted the April 6, 2011 never in his dissertation mentioned any appeal process.
- 3) The present budget deficit that plagues the USPS has been highly publicized in the media. As per The Bureau of Labor Statistics. Rhode Island ranks the 48<sup>th</sup> highest in the nation in terms of unemployment. The residents of the State of Rhode Island completely understand what it means to live during harsh economic times.

As per Mayor Dan Mckee of Cumberland Rhode Island "The Valley Falls section of Cumberland, Rhode Island is a low income neighborhood that is negatively impacted by the two in-need communities, Central Falls and Pawtucket, that border Cumberland. The Post Office that is scheduled to close, the only proposed closing in Rhode Island, is located on Broad Street in Cumberland. Over the past few years the town of Cumberland has partnered with Central Falls and Pawtucket to work on a tri community plan to revitalize the Broad Street corridor that runs through the three communities. The neighborhood that is serviced by the Post Office is experiencing high unemployment and severe economic stress. The closing of the Post Office will take away needed traffic that brings economic benefit to the Valley Falls neighborhood and will negatively impact the town's ability to attract new business development and bring employment to the area. The closing of the Post Office will contribute to further economic hardship and deterioration of the neighborhood at a time when it is not in the best interest of the fiscal health of the community".

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At the April 6 2011 Community meeting we were informed that closing the Valley Falls Post Office would save the USPS about \$100,000 per year in operating expenses. What the representative failed to reveal at the meeting is that the USPS is currently locked into a rental lease of the 197 Broad Street location. This lease, which term ends in 2013, cannot be terminated. The reported savings that the USPS claims it will realize by closing the Valley Falls Post office will be further reduced since their obligation to that lease will cost the USPS \$60,000 over the next two years to pay for an empty building. (Exhibit #8).

The USPS also never factored into its decision to close the Valley Falls how this closing would further financially encumber residents of Valley falls that are senior, handicapped, unemployed, on fixed incomes and those who have no means of travelling to the Diamond Hill Branch some 3.5 miles away (Exhibit #9). Since the Diamond Hill Post Office is not serviced by public transportation retail postal customers who walk to the Valley Falls Branch on a daily basis will be

underserved by the USPS. We find it hard to believe that the USPS would seek to realize such minor savings while exposing our already depressed community and financially strapped residents to even more economic hardships.

- 4) The proposed consolidation of the Valley Falls Post Office with the Diamond Hill Branch represents a lose – lose situation for both the retail customers who live near and utilize that branch and the proposed displaced Valley Falls customers. The main road that services the Diamond Hill Post Office is more often than not heavily congested. During certain times of the day most motorists have to wait for two to three lights to change before they can traverse across the intersection of Angel and Diamond Hill Roads. Since the Diamond Hill Branch is located just south of this intersection it makes exiting the facility's parking lot very hazardous especially if a customer wants to return home by making a left to proceed in the opposite direction. This congestion problem is further compounded by the fact that the Diamond Hill Post Office parking lot is totally inadequate for increased retail traffic as it only has 13 parking spaces.

Customers who regularly utilize Diamond Hill and the residents of Valley Falls will experience longer wait times in lines, more traffic congestion and an increase in safety hazards. On a personal level, since I visit the Valley Falls Post Office branch to mail packages on sometimes a twice daily basis, I will be forced to travel almost 14 miles per day to conduct my eBay shipping chores. The added expense to make this daily journey will significantly add to my shipping cost and may even undermine my record of shipping packages quickly.

In conclusion, closing the Valley Falls post office will create hardship for all postal customers who reside in Cumberland. We will not only be inconvenienced but also suffer financially. We urge the Postal Regulatory Commission to suspend and reverse the USPS decision to close our community's much needed postal retail facility, convince the USPS to continue its retail operations while its

lease is still in force at the 197 Broad Street location and conduct a proper survey of all the residents and business of the Valley Falls Community.

I certify that the concerns and complaints listed in this complaint will be served upon the USPS via email at [prccomplaints@usps.gov](mailto:prccomplaints@usps.gov)

Sincerely,

Derrick Watson

The Concerned Citizens of Valley Falls - SOPO





## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

### **Postal Customers in ZIP Code Area 02864**

**5/6/2011**

Changes in consumer preference and recession-related declines in mail volume have reduced U.S. Postal Service revenues. Operation of the Postal Service is paid for by postage and fees paid by our customers. The Postal Service receives no operational subsidy from taxes. Current economic conditions require that we review all postal operations for opportunities to streamline processes and provide service more efficiently.


Accordingly, we will be consolidating the retail window operations of the Valley Falls Station with the Cumberland Branch located at 2055 Diamond Hill Road. The Cumberland Branch is located 3.4 miles away from the Valley Falls Station.

Customers, who are currently receiving post office box delivery service for Valley Falls Station ZIP Code area 02864, will need to access their box at the Cumberland Branch, located 3.4 miles from the current location, but they will not need to change their address. Signature mail, parcels, postage due items and Business Reply Mail for post office box customers will be available at the Cumberland Branch, Monday through Friday from 8:30AM to 5:30PM and Saturday from 9:00AM until 1PM.

Retail service now provided at the Valley Falls Station will move to the Cumberland Branch effective Close of Business on Friday, July 8, 2011. Retail services will no longer be provided at the Valley Falls Station as of Friday, July 8, 2011.

The Postal Service operates to serve our customers. Thank you for working with us to ensure the continuation of reliable, timely, efficient and affordable service.

Any questions may be directed to the Officer in Charge at (401)792-7808.

  
Nicolas Francescucci  
Officer in Charge  
Pawtucket, RI 02860

*- Public Notice -*

**Postal Customers in Zip Code Areas 02864**

Current economic conditions require that the USPS review all postal operations for opportunities to streamline processes and provide service more efficiently.

Accordingly we are considering consolidation of the retail and delivery operations at the Valley Falls Finance Station, located at 197 Broad Street, Cumberland RI 02864.

Retail services, including post office box rental, now provided at the Valley Falls Finance Station would move to the Cumberland Branch, located at 2055 Diamond Hill Road, Cumberland RI 02864.

The Postal Service operates to serve our customers. We value your opinions during this process. There is a Community Meeting scheduled for **Wednesday, April 6, 2011 at 2PM at the Cumberland Town Hall at 45 Broad Street**. The meeting will be held in the Council Chamber. Please try to attend the meeting in order to voice your concerns. There will be Postal Representatives there to answer questions.

Derrick Watson  
18 Abbott St  
Cumberland, RI 02864  
dwatson12255@yahoo.com  
401-263-2472

March 31, 2011

Honorable Patrick R. Donahoe  
Postmaster General & Chief Executive Officer  
U.S. Postal Service  
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW  
Washington, DC 20260-0010

Dear Mr. Postmaster General Donahoe,

I am a resident of Cumberland, Rhode Island and a Top Rated e-Bay seller. I am very concerned regarding the recent announcement that the Rhode Island Postal Service is planning to close the Cumberland/Valley Falls Post Office at 197 Broad Street and consolidate postal services with the Diamond Hill Post Office in Cumberland. Closing this Postal Office would place not only a financial burden on the residents of our community but also severely inhibit our ability receive adequate and convenient local postal services at a reasonable cost.

The residents of Cumberland Rhode Island understand that the US Postal Service is seeking ways to save money by consolidating services but feel that it is very unfair for a governmental agency that has huge resources to encumber its local Valley Falls customers by requiring them to spend more money traveling (almost seven miles round trip on a daily basis) to send parcels, purchase services and collect mail from PO Boxes. No matter how the US Postal service has suffered during the United States' recent recession, we taxpaying citizens of Rhode Island have suffered even more so. The recent decision to close the 197 Broad Street Post Office in Cumberland Rhode Island will have a significant adverse impact, not only on the residents who visit this Post office on a daily basis but also on the customers who visit the Diamond Hill Post Office as well. Closing the 197 Broad Street Branch will create extremely long lines at the proposed consolidated Post Office Branch at Diamond Hill.

When you were sworn in as the 73<sup>rd</sup> Postmaster General you stated that your goal was to streamline postal services to eliminate how long customers waited in line. Additionally you stated that you would be assist and encourage e-Bayer sellers by making it easier for us to utilize USPS services. There are over ninety (90) e-Bayer sellers who reside in Cumberland Rhode Island and utilize USPS services on a daily basis. We do so because we believe that the USPS provides us with reasonable fees for shipping and convient and efficient services. The decision to close an efficient shipping staple at 197 Broad Street in our community undermines our loyal patronage. Again, closing this Post Office will increase our shipping cost due to the extra miles we will have to travel to ship our packages. More importantly this decision will exacerbate a problem which you promised to alleviate-longer waiting lines.

This decision further places a unconscionable burden on the seniors and handicapped residents of Cumberland and Valley Falls who have no other choice but to walk to the 197 Broad street Post office to purchase services and retrieve mail from PO Boxes on a daily basis. Has the Rhode Island Postal Service considered the impact on this population? Additionally, the Diamond Hill Post Office is not serviced by bus transportation according to the RIPTA web site. Have they considered the impact on the various

businesses that have maintained (some for many years) PO Boxes at this location and how moving all services to Diamond Hill will affect their business?

The decision to close this vital Post Office will also impact me personally. I became a Top-Rated seller on e-Bay as a direct result of my ability to ship items quickly and at reasonable shipping costs to my buyers. The location of the Broad Street Post Office affords me the opportunity to utilize this branch everyday sometimes twice a day. The Diamond Hill Post office is almost 3.5 miles away and the route to get there is often congested with traffic. It would almost be impossible for me to maintain my perfect shipping record if I was forced to travel to the Diamond Hill Post Office. Furthermore, traveling roundtrip to Diamond Hill on a daily and sometimes twice daily basis would substantially increase my cost to do business. If I pass along my added expenses to my buyers via a handling cost I would quickly lose my Top-Rated status on e-Bay.

We the residents of Cumberland/Valley Falls Rhode Island have collected hundreds of signatures from our neighbors and local business who oppose the decision to close this convenient, efficient and famously friendly Post Office. We will present this petition to your local postal representatives who have called for a Community Meeting to discuss this matter at the Cumberland City Hall on Wednesday, April 6, 2011 at 2:00 PM. We expect a large community turn out and we will voice our concerns and opposition to this decision. We beseech you to communicate with the local postal managers in Rhode Island and tell them that you intend to make good on your promise to alleviate lines at local post offices, encourage local residents to fully utilize local postal services and provide more reasonable and efficient postal services for e-Bay sellers. We trust that under your prudent leadership that this recent decision to close the Broad Street Post Office will be rescinded post haste. We thank you for your understanding and for supporting our worthy and justifiable cause.

Please be sure to view our local newspaper The Valley Breeze and its coverage of this issue at:  
<http://breezepapers.com/2011/03/30/cl/residents-town-leaders-gathering-to-oppose-loss-of-post-office-branch>

Sincerely;

Derrick Watson  
Cumberland/Valley Falls Residents  
To Save The 197 Broad Street Cumberland Post office

CC:  
Honorable David Cicilline  
Honorable James Langevin  
Honorable Governor Lincoln D. Chafee  
Honorable Jack Reed  
Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse  
Honorable Ralph Mollis  
Honorable Elizabeth A. Crowley  
Honorable Mayor Daniel J. McKee  
Honorable Steven J. Forte USPS Northeast

# SAVE THE CUMBERLAND BROAD STREET POST OFFICE

## CUMBERLAND TOWN HALL MEETING

Wednesday, April 6, 2011 2:00 PM

IF YOU CAN NOT ATTEND THIS MEETING PLEASE SHOW YOUR  
SUPPORT TO KEEP THIS POST OFFICE OPEN

SIGN THIS PETITION AND YOUR VOICE WILL BE HEARD!

SIGNATURE	CITY	How Long Have You Lived here?	Post Office Visits Per Week
Ana Marques	Cumberland	35 yrs.	1
Maria Araújo	Cumb R.I.	45 yrs	3
Ana Roberto	Lincoln R.I.	25 yrs	4
Christa Talord	Cumberland	24 yrs	1
Paul Mankel	CUMBERLAND	47 yrs	1
Fernanda Figueira	Stal Falls	31	20
Alex Janczar	Cumberland	30 yrs	1
Ana Sequeira	Cumberland	19 yds	2
MATILDO DOS REIS	CENTRAL FALLS	68	2
ANTHONY GOES	CENTRAL FALLS	61	3
Geoffrey Baptista	Central Falls	2 yrs	2
Natly Soares	Cumb. R.I.	38	4
Roberta Silva	Cumb. R.I.	73 yrs	5
Walter Lima	Cumberland R.I.	40 yr	1 -
Carla Neves	CENTRAL FALLS	34	4
ALFREDO LEMBRIO	Cumberland R.I.	5 years -	2
C. LAIBERTE	Grille Falls	47 yrs	5
Isaac Spencer	Central Falls	65 yrs.	2
Jim Smith	130 Lonsdale Ave	4 yrs	3
Michaela	Cumberland	60 yrs	1 -
Yvonne DeLente	Cumberland	26 years	1
F. de Souza	Lincoln	1 1/2 years	2
F. de Souza	Cumberland	12 yrs	3.

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SIGNATURE	CITY	How Long Have You Lived here?	Post Office Visits Per Week
Angela C. da Silva	Cumberland		
Patricia E. Silva	Lincoln		
Carlos da Silva	Cumberland		
Renée Duganne	Cumberland	11 yrs	1
Ambal C. Costa	Cumberland	4/10	
Cristina Henrique	Cumberland	13 years	every day
Maria D. Silva			
Maria Quate	Cumberland	24 yrs	
Jose C. Pinto	Cumberland	32 yrs	on 1
Diene D. Silva	Cumberland	36 yrs	1
Cheryl Castro	Cumberland	13 yrs	1
Ann D. Silva	Cumberland	14 yrs	every day
Darcy Carrion	Cumberland	10 years	1
Carlos Rosendo	Cumberland	15 years	1
Richard D. Silva	Portsmouth	62 years	2 Per week
Jose Costa	Cumberland	42 yrs	2
Yana C. Almeida	Cumberland	30 year	2 Per week
Hinton B. Silva	Cumberland	45 years	8 Per week
Mr & Mrs Louy	Silva		
Spencer O. J.	CUMBERLAND	17	4
Wesley M. W.	Cumberland	10	5

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SIGNATURE	CITY	How Long Have You Lived here?	Post Office Visits Per Week
Johnny Bananas	Cumb.	25	4
ROSBRIO A	Cumb	18	3
Charles Roman	Central Falls	5	4
MIKE BISORN	CUMB.	14	3
Dennis Austin	Cumb	63	1
Speryl Austin	Cumb	35	1
Centony Rodriguez	Cumb.	58 years	2-3
Ernestina	Central Falls	20	4
Arnold De Costa	Cumberland	55	2
Maria Lage	Cumberland	45	4
Rio Pinheiro	Cumberland	10 yrs	1
Rosa Oliveira	Cumberland	33 years	2-3
James A. La	Cumberland	30 years	3
Emerald Peixoto	Cumb	52 u	3
Paul Whitfield	Cumb	33 yrs	3
Helen H. Luman	Central Falls		
KATHY LAVERT	Cumberland	30 yrs	4
Alex Lage	Cumberland	45	3
Monica Barros	Central Falls	18 years	1-2
Michael Branco	Cumberland	9 years	1
Dianna Constantino	Cumberland	35 years	2
David's sign	Cumberland	25	1
Vere Wroble	Cumberland	21	2

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SIGNATURE	CITY	How Long Have You Lived here?	Post Office Visits Per Week
Lebeau	C F		
Augusto L. Bento	Cumberland	15 years	1 / 1
João Patino	C.F.	6 YEARS	E 6
Jorge dos Santos	Cumberland	23 YEARS	3
W. Freitas	"	50 years	2 w
CARLOS ARROUBA	CUMBERLAND	15 years	2 w.
Frank A. Brown	CUMBERLAND	30 years	6 days
Kevin Bryan	CENTRAL FALLS	50 years	3
João M. Alves	PAINTURGET.	- -	6
Bedege, Clad	CUMB	60	1
João G. Lopez	Central Fall	10 years	3
Luis A. Munoz	Cumberland	6 years	3
W. Charnock	CUMB	30 years	2
Victorina Henriquez	✓	✓	5 days
Ed Williams III	CF	10 years	5 x day
Thomas C. Debe	CF	60 YEARS	5
Bohmer J.	CF	52 YEARS	5-6
Bill Morrison	Lincoln	50 years	2-3
Cheryl Beland	CUMBERLAND	20 YRS	5
Edith M. Hobbins	CUMBERLAND	40 yrs	5
Robert T. Hobbins	CUMBERLAND	1 year	5
Michael Roy	C.F.	9 years	6
Mr & Mrs. Thompson	Cumberland	23 years	6
Dray Mc Ken	Cumberland	38 years	6



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SAT MARCH 26, 2011

SIGNATURE	CITY	How Long Have You Lived here?	Post Office Visits Per Week
Mary Brown	Cumb.	37	2
Rebecca Soto	Cumb	3	3
Ray Port	Cumb	3	1
Rebecca Blais	C.F.	20	1
Rachel Blais	C.F.	58	3
JOICE AFONSO	CUMB.	40	4
Paul Chitt	Cumb	32	2/week
JOAO SFOURIA	Cumberland	20	4
Yllia Schofield	Cumberland	35	2
Terese Williams	Cumberland	31	2
Hilda Young	Cumberland	39	1
Lynn Smith	Cumberland	30	2
John P.	C.F.M.I.	25	4
John C. Gonsler	C.F.M.I.	20	1
John D.	CUMB	10 years	3-4
William Agnew	Cumberland	30	4
Jammi Otto	Cumberland	22	4
Therese R. Mallette	Cumberland	69	4
Roland Myles	C.F.	10 years	2
Robert Krantz	Cumberland	75 yrs	1
Annette J. Vandal	Cumberland	75 yrs	1
James Costa	Cumberland	140	6
John F. Foc	Cumberland	15	6

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SIGNATURE	CITY	How Long Have You Lived here?	Post Office Visits Per Week
Barbara M. Cole, RSM	Attleboro, MA	5 yrs.	one
Marina Sandy	Cumberland B.t	26 years	2 a week
Anthony E.	Cumberland	6 years	2 a week
Michael Paltu	Cumberland	24 years	once
Joseph Mills	CUMBERLAND	56 yrs	6 times
Barbara Bignoli	Cumberland	40 yrs.	6 times
Paul Carr	Cumberland	45 yrs	2 A week
Ligia Boerco	Cumberland	43 yrs.	2x
ROBERT JACQUES	CUMBERLAND	4	2
CHRISTINA	Cumberland	46 yrs	1
Emma Naughton	Cumberland	10	1
San Naughton	Cumberland	7	1
Muriel Taylor	Cumberland	39 yrs	2
Mrs Mrs Fernando P. Maneca	Cumberland	35	every day
Edgar Alvarado	Pawtucket	10 year.	2 a week.
Frank Doy	Cumberland	10 years	4+
Michaela Bell	Cumberland	4 years	1-2
Julio Andrade	Cumberland	3 years	7
WALTER PACUAGA	CUMBERLAND	18 YEARS	1-2
Guillermo M. Pardo	Lincoln	9 yrs	5
Ben C. Vail	CUMBERLAND	30 yrs	1-2
Laura Pardo	CUMBERLAND	55 yrs	1
MICHAEL NEWBERG	CUMBERLAND	25 yrs	3

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SIGNATURE	CITY	How Long Have You Lived here?	Post Office Visits Per Week
Barbara Kokoska	CUMBERLAND	67 yr	2
William A. Mura			
Paul F. O'Adorno	Cumberland	Business 20 yrs	2
Kira Lazarev	Cumberland	6 yrs	2
Wendy J. Fierillo	CENTRAL FALLS	6 YRS	3
Hatchers R. Beough	Cumberland	46 years	5 days
Anthony J. Jones	Cumberland	10 years	3
K. H.	Cumberland	11 yrs	3
Leon Plouff	Cumberland	21 yrs	4
Melita Lopez	Cumberland	2 years	3
Gloria C. Antonio	Cumberland	20 years	2
Jose O. Crespo	Cumberland		
Christine Donahue	Cumberland	40 yrs	2
Maria Fernandez, Liscu	Cumber	10 yrs	1
Edward D. Smith	Cumber	10 yrs	1
FRANK GUERRA	CUMB	45	1
Robert J. J. J.	Central Falls	28 yrs	
Hilary Stanching	Cumberland	18 yrs	
Rev. Dennis J. Kieton	Cumberland	14 yrs	2+
John H. Briggs	CUMBERLAND	25 YEARS	1
John H. Briggs	"	41 years	2
Frank W. Be	Central Falls	35 years	3
Mamie Mermuck	Cumberland	6 years	2

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SIGNATURE	CITY	How Long Have You Lived here?	Post Office Visits Per Week
Armand Dabois	Cumberland	22 Years	4-5 times
Robles Montesi	"	65 YEARS	once a day
José da Silva	Cumberland	26 years	1 week
Leandro Silva	Cumberland	59 years	
Daniel J. Alves	CUMBERLAND	64 years	7
Sarah Baptista	cumberland		2
João da Silva	Cumberland	39	2
Alfonso Silva	Cumbr		
Idelmar Soares	Cumb	15 yrs	5
Angelo de Jesus	CUMBERLAND	36	3
Francisco da Silva	Cumberland	25	4
Roniano S. Ferreira	Cumberland	17	3
Adelino F. Soares	Cumberland	32	4
Jose T. A. da Silva	CUMBERLAND	30	3 x 4
Yvete A. Alves			
Y. Carlos	Cumbr.	26	1
João da Silva			
Isabel G. Soares	CUMBERLAND	7	1
Ami da Silva	Cumbr.	51	2 x 4
Harice Silva	Cumberland	26	4 + 5
Yvete da Silva	Cumberland	27	2 x 3
Yvete da Silva	Cumbr.	56	2
Yvete da Silva	Cumberland	40	4

[illegible]

[illegible]

# SAVE THE CUMBERLAND BROAD STREET POST OFFICE

## CUMBERLAND TOWN HALL MEETING

✓h

Wednesday, April 6, 2011 2:00 PM

IF YOU CAN NOT ATTEND THIS MEETING PLEASE SHOW YOUR  
SUPPORT TO KEEP THIS POST OFFICE OPEN

SIGN THIS PETITION AND YOUR VOICE WILL BE HEARD!

SIGNATURE	CITY	How Long Have You Lived here?	Post Office Visits Per Week
JOSÉ Z. ESTEVES	Cumb.	21	3
CANA RIVER	Cumb.	46	4
John Moro	CUMB	13	3
Palmina Gaspar	cumb	10	4
George M. Lopez	Cumb	22	3
John S. Silva	CUMB	30	5
Carlos R. Fidalgo	CUMB	25	4
Luís P. P. P.			
Humberto Garcia			
Joe M. M.	Cumb	5	1
John P. P.			2
Mauricio Almeida	Cumb.	40	1
TRAVERO J. G. P.	Lincoln	36	2
Connie R. R.	C.F.	50	1
George B. B.	Cumberland	2	
Fátima P. P.	Cumberland	40	3
Clifford J. J.	Cumberland	38	1
Walter J. J.	Thru	36	2
John P. P.	Cumb.	57 yrs	5
John P. P.	Lincoln	20 yrs	1
Benjamin V. V.	Lincoln	20 yrs	4
D. J. Murphy	Lincoln		
Alfred P. P.	Cumberland	48	3



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SIGNATURE	CITY	How Long Have You Lived here?	Post Office Visits Per Week
Paul Brasileiro	Cumberland	50	3
Manny Melo	Cumberland	17	3
Melissa Brasileiro	Cumberland	10	3
Maria Brasileiro	Cumberland	25	3
Ana Brasileiro	Cumberland	71	3
Celina Caseiro	PAWTUCKET	14	2
Nelson Caseiro	PAWTUCKET	14	2
Angie Melo	Cumberland	17	5
Fay Melo	Cumberland	35	3
Dora GUEIRA	CUMBERLAND	15	3
Paul Silva	Cumberland	20	2
Bruce RAQUETTE	Cumb	54	2
Gumard De Costa	Cumbersland	52	2
A. Casanova Jernando	Cumberland	42	2
Ana Bastos	Cumberland	10	3
Julia Medeiros	Cumberland	11	1
Walter Dujin	Lincoln	26	2
Antonio Cruz	Cumberland		3
Yohgo S. Almeida	Cumberland	47	1
Ch. F. F. F.	Cumberland	30	4
Bricia Roaca	E. Falls	36	3
Walter Rodas	PAWTUCKET	20	3
Heu Carlos	PAWTUCKET	10	5



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SIGNATURE	CITY	How Long Have You Lived here?	Post Office Visits Per Week
Berde Vals	Cumberland	1 1/2 years	3-4
Ernest V. Teeress	Cumberland	Many years 80	6
Jeffrey Almeida	CUMBERLAND	52/0	2
Benjamin	Cumberland	50 YRS	5
Robert Whaley	Cumby	15 YRS	2
Nicolas Vieira	Central Falls	1 YRS.	3
ACACIA MORTON	CUMBERLAND	30 YRS	3
MARK DOWD	N. Kingston	20	3
Joseph A. Chestnut	Cumberland	25	3
Jimmy Smith	CENTRAL FALLS	50	4
William	TRUSTEES	21	1-2
Jessica O'Brien	Cumberland	17	1
Raul G. Coelho	Cumberland	54 years	3
Jose F. Moriz	Cumberland	5 years	4
Albert J. Fellego	Valley Falls	66 years	3
Joseph	Cumberland	22 years	7
William Martin	Cumberland	13 years	6
Joseph Connor	Cumberland	25 years	2
Ed. Birch	Cumberland	5 years	3
Cornie Roubicek	Cumberland	10 years	2
Wayne B.	Cumberland	15 years	1
Sammy Kink	Cumby	65 years	1
Frank Sahlin	Cumberland	25 yrs.	1

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SIGNATURE	CITY	How Long Have You Lived here?	Post Office Visits Per Week
Antonio Teixeira	C. FALLS. RI	35	3
Olivia Haworth	Cumberland	45	2
Quylene L. Fillion	C. FALLS	10	2
ROGERES HADWARE		30	5
Robert Medeiros	Cumberland	6	5
CECILE DRAVET	Cumberland	27	2
Evelyn Adams	Cumberland	30	3
Bill G. Carter	CUMBERLAND	24 yrs	6
Shirley Ince npi	Cumberland	18 yrs	2
Miss Clark	Cumberland	30 yrs	6
217 Espinoza	Cumberland	6 years	3
Albino Fernandez	Cumberland	10 years	3
John Dequette	Central Falls	6 yrs	2
John Bernardo	Cumberland	35 yrs	1
Karen Bliss	Cumberland	36 yrs	1
Jae Healey	PAWTUCKET	50 +	2
Lusana French	Central Falls	24 years	2
Wanda Filler	Cumberland	7 1/2 YR	2
Susan Cohen	Cumb.	10 yrs	1
David Jonavay	CUMBERLAND	60 YRS	2
Joseph Cunha	Central Falls	30 year	
Guadalupe Seider	CUMBERLAND	21 years	2
James D. Fanning	Central Falls	21 yrs	3

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SIGNATURE	CITY	How Long Have You Lived here?	Post Office Visits Per Week
Loretta McVey	Cumb.	Since 1931	1 or 2
Michael J. Simon	CUMB	SINCE 1971	1 OR 2
Jose V. Garcia	Cumb.	25	1 OR 3
Wendy S. S. S.	Cumb.	35	4 Times
Wendy S. S. S.	Cumb.	20	3 Times
Jimmy G. S.	CUMB		4
Mrs. L. S.	Cumb.	55 yrs	4
Rosemary M. S.	C.I.	72 yrs	2
Albert M. S.	CUMB	84 yrs	5
Edward A. S.	CUMB	49 YEARS	2 to 3
Maria Nunes	Cumberland	20 YEARS	3 to 4
John G. S.	CUMB.	58 YRS	2
Barbara A. S.	CUMB	17	2 to 3
Susan A. S.	Cumb.	20 yrs	1-4
Jonel Santo	Cumb.	26 years	1-4
Alex Benedites	Cumb.	13 years	1-4
Maria Mendes	Cumb.	13 Years	1-3
Jose R. Mendes	Cumb.	14	1-2
Richard D. S.	Cumb.	12	2-5
John S.	Cumb.	12	2-5
Richard S.	Cumb.	37 yrs.	2
Jessie S.	Cumb.		
Why?			

Terrence S. S. Cumb. 36 years 1

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SIGNATURE	CITY	How Long Have You Lived here?	Post Office Visits Per Week
Albertino Duarte	37	Cumberland	3
Peter merlize	CUMBERLAND	33	4
Helga Melo	Cumberland	10	3
Irene Melo	Cumberland	40	2
Antoni Beal	Cumberland	40	1
Jon Beal	Lincoln	16	1
Lina Corredora	Cumberland	60 yrs	1
Janet Cassiday	Cumberland	56 yrs	1
Steven R Bacon	Cumbrld	25 yrs	1
Paul M de Sousa	CUMBERLAND	31 yrs	2
Abdulla Dugus	Cumberland	31 yrs	2
Vilmaeunthi Lopez	Cumberland	58 yrs	2
Jose Joaquim	CUMBERLAND	40 YER	4
Sandy Fene	Lincoln	30 yrs	3
Antonio Santos	Cumberland	50 yrs	3
Jessica Will	Cumberland	5 yrs	3
Enginier Lopez	"	17 yrs	4-5
Alfrie Jones	Cumbr	35 yrs	4
Michelle Sousa	Cumbr	70 yrs	2
Rogelio A. Soares	CUMBR	5 yrs	3
Deborah Martins	Cumbrld	20 yrs	2
DeBaneiro	LINCOLN	30 yrs	2
Russell Datta	Cumberland	1 1/2	10

# SAVE THE CUMBERLAND BROAD STREET POST OFFICE

## CUMBERLAND TOWN HALL MEETING

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SIGNATURE	CITY	How Long Have You Lived here?	Post Office Visits Per Week
John A. Thompson	Cumberland	5.5	2
Adelora Duarte	Cumberland	19	3
Rui Duarte	Cumberland	19	3
John Thompson	Cumberland	19	3
Rosario Rodriguez	Cumberland	42	2
Michaela	Cumberland	5	3
Landa Kopp	Cumberland	3	2
John Brooks	Cumberland	39	3
George Brooks	Cumberland	35	4
Rodolfo	E. Port	2	1
Catannakite	Cumberland	17	1
Maureen Tugan	Cumberland	69	2
Walter Pluta	Cumberland	80	3
Chap Freeman	Cumberland	33	2
John E. Fyfe	Cumberland	2	3
Ray Jones	C. & H.B.	70	3
Brittany Macri	Cumberland	5	3
Kayla Ezeio	Cumberland	5	3
Stanley Pereira	Cumberland	13	5
Lane Hansen	Cumberland	25	4
David Szym	London	35	5
Christie O'Sullivan	Cumberland	10	4
Kevin Marchand	Central Falls	50	3

Connecticut Valley District  
PAWTUCKET POST OFFICE



May 5, 2011

**Dear Post Office Box Customer:**

Changes in consumer preference and recession-related declines in mail volume have reduced U.S. Postal Service revenues. Operation of the Postal Service is paid for by postage and fees paid by our customers. The Postal Service receives no operational subsidy from taxes. Current economic conditions require that we review all postal operations for opportunities to streamline processes and provide service more efficiently.

Accordingly, we will be consolidating the retail window operations of the Valley Falls Station with the Cumberland Branch located at 2055 Diamond Hill Road. The Cumberland Branch is located 3.4 miles away from the Valley Falls Station.

Customers, who are currently receiving post office box delivery service for Valley Falls Station ZIP Code area 02864, will need to access their box at the Cumberland Branch, located 3.4 miles from the current location, but they will not need to change their address. Signature mail, parcels, postage due items and Business Reply Mail for post office box customers will be available at the Cumberland Branch, Monday through Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M., and Saturday from 9 A.M. until 1 P.M.

Retail service now provided at the Valley Falls Station will move to the Cumberland Branch effective Close of Business on Friday, July 8, 2011. Retail services will no longer be provided at the Valley Falls Station as of Friday, July 8, 2011.

The Postal Service operates to serve our customers. Thank you for working with us to ensure the continuation of reliable, timely, efficient and affordable service.

Any questions may be directed to the Office-in-Charge at (401) 729-7808.

Nicolas R. Francescucci  
Officer-in-Charge  
Pawtucket RI 02860-9998



May 5, 2011

Mr. Derrick Watson  
Apartment 2  
18 Abbott Street  
Cumberland, RI 02864-1702

Dear Mr. Watson:

This is in response to your letter to the Postmaster General concerning the consolidation of Post Office stations and branches.

I recognize your interest in ensuring your continued access to the United States Postal Service. Indeed, the very survival of the Postal Service depends upon continued access for all customers, despite weak economic conditions and the firm expectation that mail volume will continue to drop.

In the face of these historic challenges, the Postal Service must pursue any identifiable solutions and strategies to mitigate the impact. After cutting management by consolidating District and Area offices, closing some mail processing facilities and consolidating operations at others, and revamping letter carrier operations so that carriers spend more of their time on the street delivering mail, the Postal Service initiated an examination of retail facilities. Given our finite resources, our objective has been to determine whether it is feasible to provide access to postal services in other ways, and possibly consolidate operations certain retail facilities.

If, at some time in the future, the Cumberland and Valley Falls Post Offices are evaluated for discontinuance, please be assured that we will post appropriate notices at that facility and seek public comment.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this matter with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Vanessa Williams".

Vanessa Williams  
Consumer Research Analyst  
Postal Service Headquarters





May 19, 2011

Mr. Derrick Watson  
18 Abbott St  
Cumberland, R.I. 02864-1702

Dear Mr. Watson:

This is in reference to your correspondence to the Postmaster General, Mr. Patrick R. Donahoe, concerning the consolidation of Post Offices stations and branches. Since the U.S. Postal Service is an organization committed to providing effective service, we are always interested when our customers have a question or concern. Your letter has been referred to our office for a response.

As you know, the U.S. Postal Service is facing one of the most difficult challenges in its history. The current economic downturn and continued Internet diversion has led to a drastic decline in mail volume.

Since the Postal Service does not receive tax dollars to pay for its operating costs, this unprecedented decline in volume and, subsequently, revenue, requires us to look for opportunities to consolidate and streamline our operations.

The Postal Service has completed its analysis of the Valley Falls Station and has determined that it is in the best interest of the Postal Service to consolidate the Valley Falls Station with the Cumberland Branch located at 2055 Diamond Hill Road.

Customers, who are currently receiving post office box delivery for Valley Falls Station ZIP Code area 02864, will need to access their box at the Cumberland Branch, located 3.4 miles from the current location, but they will not need to change their address. Signature mail, parcels, postage due items and Business Reply Mail for post office box customers will be available at the Cumberland Branch, Monday through Friday from 8:30AM to 5:30PM and Saturday from 9:00AM until 1PM.

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141 WESTON STREET  
HARTFORD, CT 06101-9612

(860) 524-6094  
TOLL FREE 1-888-610-3157  
FAX: (860) 524-6321



CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
CONNECTICUT VALLEY DISTRICT

We recognize that change is difficult for our customers and our employees, but the Postal Service must reduce costs in order to continue to provide universal service to our nation. Though this decision was not an easy one, especially since your petition shows how often residents visit the Cumberland Broad Street Branch on a weekly basis, we feel it is the correct course of action for the Postal Service and its future.

Please keep in mind the Postal Service official Web-site, [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com), offers a wealth of information for both senders and receivers of mail can now conduct many postal transactions from their home or business. Some of the commonly accessed pages allow you to:

- Locate ZIP+4 ZIP Code numbers through ZIP Code Lookup
- Locate your nearest local Post Office facility with the Post Office Locator
- Print shipping labels with and without postage
- Submit a Change of Address Form
- Track Express Mail
- Calculate Domestic and International
- Check times and dates of upcoming Postal auctions
- Purchase stamps online
- Request Carrier Pickup
- Schedule Hold Mail Service
- Review the Domestic Mail Manual (DMM) and International Mail Manual (IMM)

Even more services and information can be found online at [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com).

If you should have additional concerns regarding this matter, please contact Karen Kucharczyk, Manager Consumer and Industry Contact at (860) 524-6496.

Sincerely,



David C. Krauss  
Consumer Affairs Associate

CA105110952

141 WESTON STREET  
HARTFORD, CT 06101-9612

(860) 524-6094  
TOLL FREE 1-888-610-3157  
FAX: (860) 524-6321



# Lease

**Facility Name/Location**

PAWTUCKET - VALLEY FALLS BR. (436720-008)  
197 BROAD ST PAWTUCKET, RI 02864-9998

PROVIDENCE COUNTY  
Project: B19087

This LEASE, made and entered into by and between HELCAR INC hereinafter called the Lessor, and the United States Postal Service, hereinafter called the Postal Service:

In consideration of the mutual promises set forth and for other good and valuable consideration, the sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties covenant and agree as follows:

1. The Lessor hereby leases to the Postal Service and the Postal Service leases from the Lessor the following premises, hereinafter legally described in paragraph 9, in accordance with the terms and conditions described herein and contained in the 'General Conditions to U.S. Postal Service Lease,' Section A, attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Upon which is a One story masonry building and which property contains areas, spaces, improvements, and appurtenances as follows:

AREA	SQ. FEET	AREA	SQ. FEET
Net Floor Space	2,500	Joint Use/Common Areas:	
Platform	405		
Parking and Maneuvering	12,565		
Other:			
Driveway			
Landscaping			
Sidewalks			

**Total Site Area:** 15,065

2. RENTAL: The Postal Service will pay the Lessor an annual rental of: \$24,960.00

\*\*\*Twenty-Four Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty and 00/100 Dollars\*\*\*

payable in equal installments at the end of each calendar month. Rent for a part of a month will be prorated. Rent checks shall be disbursed as follows:

payable to:

HELCAR INC  
P O BOX 701  
GREENVILLE RI 02828-0701

unless the Contracting Officer is notified, in writing by Lessor, of any change in payee or address at least sixty (60) days before the effective date of the change.

3. TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said premises with their appurtenances:

FIXED TERM: The term beginning May 01, 1998 and ending Apr. 30, 2003 for a total of 5 years.

4. **RENEWAL OPTIONS:** The Lease may be renewed at the option of the Postal Service, for the following separate and consecutive terms and at the following annual rentals:

RENEWAL OPTION	TERM NO. OF YEARS	PER ANNUM RENTAL
1	5	\$27,456.00
2	5	\$30,201.00

provided that notice is sent, in writing, to the Lessor at least 90 days before the end of the original lease term and each renewal term. All other terms and conditions of this Lease will remain the same during any renewal term unless stated otherwise herein.

5. **TERMINATION:** None.

6. **UTILITIES, SERVICES, AND EQUIPMENT:** Lessor, as part of the rental consideration, shall furnish the following utilities, services and equipment: (See Lessor Obligations of General Conditions (A.24) and/or attached addendum for definitions.)

Heating System, ~~Air Conditioning Equipment~~, Light fixtures, Sewerage ~~Service and~~ System, Electrical System, Water System.

*USPS is responsible for payment of all utilities.*

7. **OTHER PROVISIONS:** The following additional provisions, modifications, riders, layouts and/or forms were agreed upon prior to execution and made a part hereof:

Maintenance Rider - USPS (M-1), Reimbursement Tax Rider (T-1), ~~PS Maintenance Rider~~

~~Lessor (U-17).~~

*USPS is responsible for annual payment of sewer assessment.*

8. The undersigned has completed the 'Representations and Certifications.' (See Section B).

9. **LEGAL DESCRIPTION:**

197 Broad Street in Pawtucket, Providence County, RI